

Another Capitalist Tragedy

Prominent Manufacturer Is Knocked Down and Doesn't Know the System Hit Him—By Silas Hood

(Written for The Herald.)

EVERYTHING is fair in love, war and business—especially in business.

Frank Goewey Jones, capitalist, of Muskegon, Mich., was evidently of this opinion, especially in reference to business. He, up to a short time ago, was president of the American Electric Fuse company, a \$500,000 corporation of Muskegon; president of the chamber of commerce of that city; a 32d degree Mason; was also a regular reader of the capitalist press in general, and the Chicago Tribune in particular; prominent member of the Elks; director of the Hackley National bank, a leading figure in the Merchants and Manufacturers' association; prominent Republican, and generally was regarded as THE leading citizen in the community in which he lived.

In his big factory he employed 700 men, women, girls and boys, where the books show that "hands" received wages all the way from \$3 to \$40 a week.

Jones occupied a comfortable residence on Lake avenue, with his wife and child and servants; he owned an automobile, and was a man who enjoyed life frequently at the country club gatherings and at other institutions the capitalist game provides for its successful members.

Capitalist Transformation Scene

Now, where is Jones? He is behind the bars in the county jail in Grand Rapids, Mich.; his big factory is in the hands of a receiver with liabilities of more than a million and with considerable less than \$200,000 assets. And although the amount of bail demanded for the release of the "millionaire" manufacturer is but \$12,000, Jones has failed to find a friend with property who would risk the amount required. Friends galore when he was successful, but none with cash when he is down and out.

And how did this transformation scene come about so suddenly in this "perfect" capitalist state of society? Did Jones gamble in Wall street? No. Did Jones drink? No. Was he a lavish spender? No. Did he neglect his family? No. He was devoted to his wife and boy. Did he neglect his business? No, on the contrary, he was full of tireless business energy and up-to-date enterprise. He possessed a keen mind. His father chose a profession for him that at its best is an UNMORAL training—that of law. He graduated with honors from the University of Michigan, and later through a business transaction with one of his clients in Chicago he got

into the manufacturing line. His business grew, and along with it his credit was enlarged. His factory was doing a business of \$35,000 a month when the crash came. It was conducted, as every manufacturing plant is conducted, by dragging children from the playground and grinding them into dollars. But everything is fair in business according to the capitalist mind.

An Open Shop

No labor unions were recognized in the Jones factory. The president didn't permit any walking delegate to say how long he should work "his" girls, women and men. That was business—his business. As a result wages were low except for the slave drivers in the various departments.

But several years ago one of those capitalist depressions came along and Jones needed money to tide him over a period of too much wealth in the nation. Jones had his share of the too much along with the rest of the capitalists, but he couldn't find consumers with money to buy. So he had to have money to keep his part of the capitalist wreck aloft. He had been trained in college to go out into the world and get money, and his training included a disregard for conscientious scruples as to the manner of getting it. Get it honestly, if you can, but get it. Everything is fair in business. The capitalists don't say that, but they practice that method just the same. And Jones felt sure that he would win in the end. He was urged to get into the trust game. He laughed at these suggestions and said he intended to preserve his individuality. He persisted that the game of competition was a fair one, and he remained in the struggle with such competitors as the Western Electric company, the Bell Telephone company, the Cutler-Hammer Manufacturing company, and others equally as formidable. The result was that his profits fell, and in order to keep the business going he falsified the financial condition of his business and by repeated misrepresentations of this character, made necessary because of the losses sustained in the competitive game, was able to borrow \$720,000 from the big thieves who have money they never earned to loan in large slices.

Thieves vs. Thieves

Some of the creditors when the upheaval came were found to be national bankers. And these bankers say they intend to make an example of Jones as a warning to others not to

attempt in the future to rob them of their hard earned dollars. So they arrested Jones and they probably will make good their promise to keep him out of the competitive game for a few years. Such will be Jones' finish in the capitalist strife.

Victims Hate Socialism

Jones, ever since he left college, has been a bitter opponent of Socialism. He stoutly maintained that the capitalist system was the most perfect that could be devised. And the strangest part of this capitalist tragedy is that Jones from behind the bars at Grand Rapids is still a bitter opponent of Socialism and a staunch advocate of capitalism. And he promises, when he is released, that he will re-enter the game of tooth and nail, beak and claw, fang and hoof, and he feels confident, he says, that he will win in the strife. He doesn't agree yet that the capitalist system is even partly wrong. He has told me so since his arrest and over his own signature he has written that he "doesn't agree with me at all on Socialism. AND NEVER WILL."

To students of real life who can view the situation from the scientific point of Socialism, Jones didn't fall. He wasn't even pushed. He was KNOCKED DOWN by the relentless waves of competitive Socialism. And when this Napoleon-manufacturer was knocked down and dragged behind the bars of a capitalist jail, and when the situation left him worth half a million dollars less than nothing; with a loving and confiding wife to remain out in the world to battle for herself and child, Jones even then didn't realize there was anything wrong with the system.

Capitalism Befouling Its Own

And what does this lesson teach us? It teaches us that capitalism is so stupidly relentless and so UNMORAL (a new word in its teachings and training that it destroys its own adherents in high places to such a degree that they themselves are unconscious of the fact that they have been devoured and are willing to be sacrificed once more. Even when locked behind the bars they are too stupid to see.

Jones doesn't realize that the competitive game, so far as creating additional great captains of industry, is dead. The competitive game to that aim isn't dying; it is already a corpse. And when Jones has been sentenced to remain in bondage for a term of years at the expense of the public, and his family is being provided for by other members of society who are permitted to be at large, justice will have been satisfied according to our peculiar capitalist ethics. And when Jones comes out of his retreat, he not only will find the system a corpse, but he will find it, in my opinion, buried. He will not be permitted either to put himself up again to be knocked down.

Summing up this commercial episode in this vaunted age of 1911 civilization, what does it illustrate? It illustrates that Jones' case is just one more of the millions of indictments against the savagery of the system; simply one more piece of evidence that the whole capitalist monster deserves to die.

Victims Below Saving Victims Higher Up

And what a tragedy it is to realize that the intellectual proletariat will have to endure so much, not only to save his own class, BUT THE CAPITALISTS AS WELL. And the capitalists accuse themselves of possessing a mortgage on brains!

If the co-operative commonwealth could be ushered in suddenly—which cannot be—about the first thing the new order would probably decide to do would be to open the dungeons, slide back the penitentiary locks and give EVERY occupant—high and low—a chance to be free men and women, a free chance to develop their individuality, and to be of service to themselves and the rest of society. They are behind the bars because of the brutality and insanity of the system—not because of faults of their own. The equal opportunity isn't here—not in 1911.

In conclusion, the writer is going to make a confession. None other than a class-conscious Socialist would make such a confession. This recent Muskegon victim of capitalist slaughter is a near relative of mine—same flesh and blood.

I am not ashamed for myself that my relative is to be branded with the penitentiary curse. I'm not ashamed of that. I am ashamed, though, of a system that claims so many victims, high and low, and I hang my head lower in shame when I have to admit that I am from the same family with a man who hasn't exhibited brains enough, up to the present writing, to realize that the monstrous capitalist disorder has knocked him down.

(Since writing the foregoing, Jones was sentenced to serve a term in a state institution at Ionia, Mich. The sentence was from four to fourteen years. The capitalist judge recommended that this victim of capitalism be denied the privilege of being any use to his family or to society at large for a period of TEN YEARS. Thus will justice be served under capitalism.)

Contempt for Judges—John Hays Hammond of the National Civic Federation was the special representative of the United States at the recent coronation of King George the V. None of the labor "akates" identified with Hammond in the National Civic Federation received any invitations to attend the coronation nor were any of them selected to represent their country.

Why this discrimination?—Miners' Magazine.

Verbal Chloroform.—"Here beneath the dome of our glorious republic there is equal opportunity for all."

If that is true, then the son of a scavenger has an equal opportunity with the son of a banker. Does any sane man believe it? No, not even the orator who culls flowers from the garden of rhetoric to chloroform his auditors.—Ex.

Pure Soda Water

Says Government Chemist Wiley: "The honest soda water man who sells real, soda water is a godsend today. I would not part with him for the world. It's the man who sells injurious chemicals and habit-producing drugs in soda water glasses to whom I am opposed and whom I would like to see driven out of business. That contemptible class of persons who make their flavors of injurious chemicals and who sell them as pure fruit flavors."

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lance effort to climb the greased pole of radicalism surmounted by Mr. Berger. But the Sun's account of Victor as still in the stage of emulation looks like envious eastern belittlement of our towering townsman—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Forced to Moderate

Great significance, the London Daily Telegraph Berlin correspondent says, is attached to the remark, "My Socialists are not so bad, after all," which the Emperor is said to have made recently in the course of conversation.

It is one of the many slight indications that, in view of the possibilities of the reichstag general elections, the government is preparing to change its attitude towards this party, which in the past has not received many compliments from official quarters.

Convict Camp Victims—Comrade Jose de La Campa, Brit Russell and J. F. Bartlum, cigarmakers who were active in behalf of the members during the protracted lockout and strike in the city of Tampa, Fla., are now serving a year's sentence in the convict camp. An appeal had been taken to the district court, which affirmed the findings of the lower court. This latter decision precipitated a general strike for a few days as a protest, and the strikers were persuaded that the case would be advanced rapidly to a decision in the higher court and given to understand that a stay of execution would be had in the meantime. But they were only promises.

Clean Work—Never before in the history of Butte have those parts of the city inhabited by the working class been kept in as clean and sanitary condition as during the present Socialist administration. Wonder if this is one of the "blue laws," the resurrection of which is charged against the Socialists. We haven't heard the "roar" as yet—from the workers.—Butte (Mont.) Socialist.

At the Top

"The Hon. Victor L. Berger, the Socialist congressman, is manifestly entitled to rank with the Hon. Woodrow Wilson and the Hon. George Judson King as a vital and promoting force in the campaign for 'real democracy.'—New York Sun."

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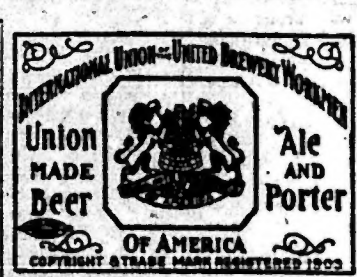


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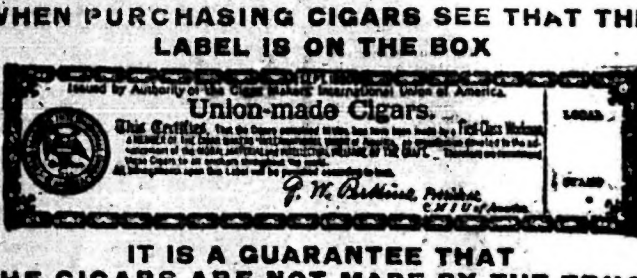


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Comrade Boudin's Explanation

New York, July 13, 1911. [TO THE EDITOR:]

The Herald of July 8, contains an article by Comrade Ida Crouch-Hazlett, marked "written for the Herald," in which the writer gives what is supposed to be an account of my article in the June International Review criticising Comrade Berger's joint resolution offering an amendment to the constitution. As the article by Comrade Crouch-Hazlett is full of misrepresentations as to what I have said in the Review and is entirely misleading as to my position on the question, I must ask you for some of your valuable space for a brief reply.

To begin with, the very caption of the article, "Should the Court be Attacked?" is misleading in the extreme. It certainly suggests that I was opposed to "attacking the court," and criticised Comrade Berger for doing so. Whereas, as a matter of fact, I have devoted a good deal of energy during the past few years to the labor of "attacking the court," as Comrade Crouch-Hazlett, or at least the editor of the Herald, ought to know. And the gist of my criticisms of Comrade Berger's resolution was that it did not "attack the court" sufficiently or efficiently, which is, of course, another story.

Then, the opening paragraph says that I "criticise Comrade Berger's policy in congress." That is, to say the least, very inexact. There is not a word in my article about Comrade Berger's policy in congress. I have criticised only one of his bills. And in the same article I praised another one of his bills. Why then should any one who does not desire to create a false impression say that I criticized his "policy in congress?"

The curious statement, further on in the article, that "he" (that is myself), "admits that the power wielded by the judiciary is the principal club of the government," can also only be explained on the theory that the writer wanted the readers of the article to gain the false impression that I am opposed to "attacking the court."

And after the ground has been thus prepared this "writer for The Herald" says:

"In Comrade Boudin's opinion, the Socialists must withhold themselves from all legal or parliamentary attacks upon the dread monster of the final ultimatum of the judgeship, and depend upon 'talking to the working class, till they shall arise in their wrath and the entire constitution, bag and baggage, shall vanish in the twinkling of an eye, without any such

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Substance of Socialism—John Spargo. \$2.08 per copy.

Spiritual Significance of Modern Socialism—John Spargo. 55c per copy.

Karl Marx, His Life and Work—John Spargo. \$2.70 per copy.

The Weavers, The Greatest Socialist Drama—Gerhart Hauptmann. \$1.06 per copy.

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FREDERIC HEATH VICTOR L. BERGER
Editor AssociateThe Herald is Not Responsible for Opinions
of its Contributors.Official Paper of the Federated Trades Council
of Milwaukee and the Wisconsin State Fed-
eration of Labor.

Entered at the Milwaukee Postoffice as Second-Class Matter, August 30, 1901.

Recent Herald callers: Richard Murphy, St. Louis, Mo.; C. L. Coleman, Fairhope, Ala.; J. W. Erlandson, Kennedy, Minn.; Henry Frank, Pittsburg, Pa.; J. W. Born, Ernestine Born, Chicago, Ill.; S. J. Shoomkopf, Pittsburg, Pa.

Word comes that at the Women's Congress recently held in Stockholm, Sweden, Selma Lagerlof, winner of the Nobel prize for literary effort, acknowledged herself a Socialist. For years Selma Lagerlof was a village school teacher in Landskrona. With the publication of her first writings, which were distinctly anti-Socialist, she immediately became famous. In every speech in the Women's Congress she took a strong position in support of Socialist principles.

Recrue Official Recalled in Two Harbors

Two Harbors, Minn., July 16.—It is with much pleasure that I inform you that the attempt on the part of the "plutocrats" here "to put one over" on us failed and yesterday the Socialists were again successful in putting them to rout.

On May 5 last, H. J. Irwin, who was elected alderman-at-large at the spring election, was expelled from the party for refusing to vote as pledged to the people. He also refused to resign from the council, so the local got out a petition for his recall.

When the Citizens (Citizens is the name by which the combined old parties are called) found out that the Socialists had a petition to recall Irwin, they got out a petition to recall Charles Esse, who was elected alderman from the Fourth ward on the Socialist ticket at the last election. Then the "Cits" offered to withhold the petition to recall Esse if the Socialists would withhold the petition to recall Irwin. This we refused to do, of course.

The printed matter gotten out by the "Cits" did not carry much weight.

as it was unsigned. Our printed matter was not only signed, but dignified in tone.

The result of yesterday's election was as follows:

Alderman-at-large, A. L. Johnson, Socialist, 419; H. J. Irwin, "Citizen," 284.

Alderman from the Fourth ward—Charles Esse, Socialist, 134; Harry Bangsrud, "Citizen," 70.

At the spring election Esse had 22 majority; his majority yesterday was 64. The alderman-at-large at last spring's election had majorities of from 10 to 22. Johnson's election by a majority of 135 proves beyond any question of a double that the Socialist shave "made good" in Two Harbors. Charles Esse, Sec'y, Socialist Local.

Book Notes

"Confidences" and "Truths," published by Forbes & Co., Chicago, Ill., are two book titles that challenge our sympathies at first sight, and it is a pleasure to be able to say that a reading of the two little volumes that bear these names does not dispel the first impression. We recommend them to parents who have maturing children who are entitled to reliable information relative to their bodies and their functions and who can be made or marred according to the source from which the information comes. Too many children get their first knowledge of sex matters from impure minded playmates. Yet many parents shrink from the duty of sex instruction and thus make possible distorted ideas and evilly bent thoughts. To such shrinking parents we cannot too highly commend the little book, "Confidences," for girls, and "Truths," for boys. They are neatly bound and sell at 50 cents each. Both are written by a medical author, who has succeeded in a delicate presentation of the subjects with a wholesome atmosphere in every page.

YELLOW FIRE

(Continued from 1st page.)

both, N. J. 1
Local North Bend, North Bend, Ore. 1
Socialist party of St. Louis, Mo. 1
Workmen's Circle, No. 176, Chicago, Ill. 1
Zartman local, Zartman, Mont. 1
Workmen's Circle, No. 6, Brooklyn, N. Y. 1
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Dear Sir:

Under separate cover we are sending you a copy of the Short Ballot pamphlet, which has been widely circulated in the United States. We would deem it a great favor if you would read it and give us an expression of opinion on the principle which it advocates.

Yours very truly,

The Short Ballot Organization,
H. S. Gilbertson, Assistant Sec.
May 17.

Answer

Mr. H. S. Gilbertson, the Short Ballot Organization, New York City.

Dear Sir: The Socialist party has never expressed itself on the short ballot movement. I can therefore give you only my individual opinion which, however, I believe fairly represents the general Socialist attitude.

The short ballot movement is substantially based upon the time-honored "good-man" idea in politics. Mr. Richard S. Childs, the secretary-treasurer of your organization, and probably the most conspicuous exponent of the short ballot, sums up the theory in the following language:

"Good government is entirely a matter of getting the right men in the first place. Nothing else is so vital. No system, however ingenious, will make bad men give good government or keep good men from getting superior results."

The advocates of the short ballot assert that one of the greatest obstacles to securing good men for public office, is the "long ballot," i. e., the large number of public officials elected by popular vote. The voter, they argue, has no personal knowledge of the merits of the opposing candidates, and the newspapers cannot afford to discuss the qualifications of the host of minor candidates who present themselves to the electorate at large communities at general elections. Hence the average citizen votes blindly. Nominations and elections are maneuvered by professional politicians, who thus control the government and run it for their personal profit.

The remedy proposed is to "shorten the ballot," i. e., to take the election of the majority of public officers from the people, abolishing them altogether wherever feasible, or making them appointive instead of elective. It is also proposed to enlarge the functions and to extend the terms of the elective officials. The ideal ballot suggested by Mr. Childs would limit popular elections to the offices of president and vice president, congressmen, governors, state senators and assemblymen, county supervisors, city mayors and councilmen, and extend the term of all state and municipal officers to either four or two years. It is argued that in this manner the citizen would never have more than three candidates to vote for in any election; that such candidates would necessarily be subjected to closer scrutiny by the people, and the political parties would be forced to put forth their best men.

This, I believe, is a fair summary of the reasoning underlying the short ballot movement. Like many other modern movements for "electoral reform," such as the "commission form" of government, the direct primary and the "Massachusetts ballot," it seems plausible and sounds radical to the superficial reasoner, but on closer analysis it proves ineffective and reactionary.

There is no good ground to assume that a "short ballot" would produce a better grade of public officials. It can certainly not be said today that

our appointed public functionaries are of a higher caliber than the elected officials. The contrary is probably more universally the case. For no matter how indifferent the average voter is, no political party would dare to present to the electorate men of such objectionable characters and of such unsavory reputations as are now frequently rewarded by lucrative political appointments. It may be said that upon the adoption of the short ballot the elected officials will be of such high standing and so untrammeled by political obligations that their appointments will be superior to those of the past. But why? The leading political candidates, the presidents, governors and mayors today receive as much attention from the press and are subjected to as much public scrutiny as they would be under a short ballot system, and they fill the principal appointive offices. It seems to me that if the powers of our governors and mayors are to be so increased as to give them the appointment of practically all civil officers within the state and municipal governments, there will be added incentive for the dominant political machines to control these powerful sources of all possible graft and patronage, and to see to it that none but their most reliable tools be elected to these high offices.

The short ballot may thus prove quite ineffective, even from the viewpoint of the "good-men" theory. But the Socialists do not believe in that theory. "Good men in politics" is an altogether meaningless phrase. Whether a public official is "good" or "bad" may be a matter of vital interest to his wife or intimate circle of friends; the community at large is concerned only in his public policies. A public official cannot be good or bad to the entire community alike. The public official who is "good" to the large business interests and employers of labor, is thereby "bad" to the workers and consumers, and vice versa. It is the interests, not the personal qualities; the platforms, not the candidates, and the measures, not the men, that count in public life. No public official, whether personally "good" or "bad" can escape the influence of his own class and environment, or the control of the parties and interests that have elevated him to office and upon whom depends his political career.

The public official serves the political party to whom he owes his office, the party serves the interests which finance and maintain it. Our political parties may be at the root of all modern political graft and corruption, but the political party is the sole safeguard of the intelligent voter. Whether or not we have a short ballot or a Massachusetts ballot or direct primaries, candidates are but empty names to the thousands, sometimes millions, of voters called upon to choose among them. The political party is the only constant factor in our politics. Its identity is fixed. Its composition, platform and record are known to all voters. It presents itself to the citizens for endorsement or censure every year. Our two leading parties have at this time become so similar in their aims and methods and in their service to the dominant class, that their separate existence is only continued by the rivalry for political spoils. Hence the crusade of our "modern reformers" against "party domination," and the cry for good men regardless of politics. But when the struggle is not merely between the two old parties, as for instance, when the Socialist party seriously contests an important election, all supporters of the vested interests, the "good" and the "bad," the "pure" and the "corrupt," the "reformers" and the "reactionaries," speedily combine to defeat the Socialist, without stopping to ascertain whether he is a "good" man or a "bad" man, as the recent Milwaukee school elections have again demonstrated.

The Socialists have little sympathy for nonpartisan politics. To them politics is a struggle of social classes, and the political party, an organized army in that struggle. They expect the salvation of the country not from a curtailment of its democratic institutions, but from a strong economic and political organization of the workers and their sympathizers along the lines of the modern Socialist movement. Very truly yours,

Morris Hillquit

Teacba Strike-Breaking.—It is now charged that the United States War college at Washington, D. C., is teaching the art of breaking a strike. Capitalism owns the soldier, and capitalism is interested in the latest and most improved methods to crush the workers.—Ex.

A Postal Bank in Milwaukee

would be the safest kind of a bank. If you are looking for safety, our bonds are also a safe medium to invest in.

Why?

In the first place, a first mortgage will assure the return of your money and the payment of interest thereon. The mortgage will cover all the present property and good will of the Social-Democratic Publishing company, and all that may come into its possession in the future, just as long as the bonds are outstanding.

Bonds

Approximately four thousand bonds have been sold. There are six thousand left. Each bond sells for ten dollars, bears 4 per cent interest from Dec. 1, 1911, and runs for sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen and twenty years, depending upon the series it is in. These bonds may quickly be realized on, should you need the money, by using them as security for a loan.

In Reach of All

Desiring to have the working class control the Socialist daily, the bonds will be sold in ten dollar denominations. Secure them now, if you know that you will be able to pay for the same by Dec. 1, 1911. Subscribe for one or more bonds immediately. They may be paid for in four monthly installments.

A Good Investment

All present indications point to a successful and highly effective career for our daily. Not only have we a great Socialist sentiment in the city and county, but in the state at large, as well. We can, therefore, probably commence publication with an edition of about thirty thousand to start with. Besides, a great number of small business men are impregnated with Socialist ideas or at least are sincere sympathizers. There will be only too anxious to make use of our advertising columns to swing the great buying force of the working class into their stores and shops. The patronage received by this class of smaller business men because of their advertising in our paper will readily induce the larger concerns to seek our pages. Indeed, it appears now that our Socialist daily will probably be the best advertising medium in the city for the reason that we will have an intelligent and discriminating reading public. And advertising, nowadays is absolutely necessary for all business.

Management

You will have an additional security in the good sense and sound judgment of an experienced newspaper management. The Social-Democratic Publishing company has weathered many a storm in the past ten years to bring the Social-Democratic Herald to its present successful basis. This force will pilot the new ship with the same steady and persistent devotion as heretofore. It will try to get sufficient advertising and the circulation for the new paper to at least cover the running expenses right from the start.

The A B C and the X Y Z

We have given you in a modest and conservative tone the A B C of a safe investment in our bonds. The X Y Z part of our proposition is your willingness to take advantage of this extraordinary opportunity. If you have ten dollars or more in a bank or at home, it will pay you to withdraw the amount, and invest it in the daily's bonds.

More information on request.
Bonds will not be issued until about Dec. 1, 1911. Pending the issuance and delivery of bonds all remittances will be acknowledged by receipt sent to the remitter.

Milwaukee Social-Democratic Publishing Company
Cor. 6th and Chestnut Sts.
Milwaukee, Wis.

SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC HERALD—Business Dep't

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS, MONEY ORDERS, ETC., TO
MILWAUKEE SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY
TELEPHONE GRAND 488 Private Telephone 1111
Brisbane Hall, Sixth & Chestnut Sts., MILWAUKEE
Phone System. When operator answers, give name of person or department desired.
H. W. Berger, Business Manager

Office Hours: 2 A. M. to 8 P. M. Sundays 9 A. M. to 12 Noon

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National Edition, 4 pages—One year, 60 cents; six months, 35 cents.
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ADVERTISING RATES.
NATIONAL EDITION—4 Pages.
100 copies or more, per hundred.....\$5.00
1,000 copies or more, per thousand.....\$50.00
WISCONSIN EDITION—8 or More Pages.
100 copies or more, per hundred.....\$1.00
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WEEKLY BUNDLES. 4 pages. 8 or more pages.
Five copies, 3 months, to one address.....\$0.35
Ten copies, 3 months, to one address.....\$0.70
Five copies, one year, to one address.....\$1.75
Ten copies, one year, to one address.....\$3.50
ADVERTISING BATES furnished on application. We reserve the right to terminate any advertising contract without notice.
Receipts for remittances on subscriptions received from outside the city of Milwaukee are acknowledged by the NUMBER ON THE WRAPPER. To these separate receipts are appended.

The Builders' Column

By A. W. Mance

A New Milestone

Get The Herald into the Hands of Your Friends and Start Them in Reading the Account of the Conference of Elected Socialist Officials—This Will Attract Their Attention and Hold It.

Thirty-five Socialist mayors and scores of other elected Socialist officials will hold a conference in Milwaukee from August 1-15.

This conference will be the most significant gathering that has taken place on the American continent for a century. In all probability it will be the first of what will in the future become a great annual national gathering to consider great social problems by Socialist legislators and executive officers, municipal, state and national.

From all present indications the fall and spring elections of 1911-12 will add hundreds more to the elected Socialists throughout the country.

What can you do that is so likely to land the people of your community in the Socialist camp as to have them read the account of what Socialists in action are doing from week to week?

Get a club at once and have them start reading The Herald which will contain a full account of the conference of America's elected Socialists.

Remember, you get a History of the Milwaukee Campaign and Victory for each club of eight you send in. No active Socialist or branch can afford to be without one of these books to refer to when planning educational or campaign work.

Nothing else in print contains such a mine of practical information for the practical Socialist worker who desires to make his work effective.

Herald Subscription Contest On

Two Prizes For Each State Every Month

First Prize—One Year's Subscription for the Milwaukee Daily Socialist Paper When It Starts.

Second Prize—Subscription for Daily for Six Months.

How Points Are Counted

Paid subscription to The Herald:

National edition, six months, at 25c.....	1 point
Local edition, three months, at 25c.....	1 point
National edition, one year, at 50c.....	2 points
Local edition, one year, at 50c.....	2 points
Local edition, one year, at \$1.....	4 points
Club of four, national edition, for \$1.25.....	4 points
Club of four, local edition, \$2.50.....	10 points

THIS CONTEST WILL CLOSE WITH THE
LAST MAIL REACHING THE HERALD
OFFICE, JULY 31

Washington Letter

(Continued from 1st page.)

pelled to do the work now done by 6,000 but they will have to work for lower wages, and, of course, longer hours.

Throughout the country the forts and army posts are surrounded by little cottages in which happy families are now living. But they are just beginning to realize that their homes are to be destroyed. They are learning that their breadwinners must live within the forts the dreary lives of soldiers if they are to continue work-

ing for the government. Some of these men have grown gray in the service of Uncle Sam and cannot even enlist under the proposed law because of their age.

It should be noted that a Democrat is author of this bill and that not a capitalist newspaper has even printed a line regarding this important measure which is soon to become a law.

Victor L. Berger will make a run from Washington over to Baltimore on Aug. 28 to speak at West End park under the auspices of the Socialists of that city.

TRY THE HERALD CLASSIFIED "ADS"

FOUND

FOUND—On Feb. 20, Democratic People's Day, on a street car, one of "What For?" Owner can have same by calling at 1730 N. 1st St. and Tobacco Store, Fifth and Chestnut streets and proving ownership.

WANTED

WANTED—To do addressing for societies. RAPID ADDRESSING CO., 528-530 Chestnut street, Milwaukee, Wis.

WANTED—Orders for imitation typewritten letters; cannot be told from the original. CO-OPERATIVE PRINTERY, 528-530 Chestnut street, Milwaukee, Wis.

WANTED—Orders for "Socialism Made Plain" (four editions). 528-530 Chestnut street, Milwaukee, Wis.

WANTED—Branches and other societies to purchase "Socialism Made Plain" Score Cards, bearing the union label, from the Piffert cents a dozen. CO-OPERATIVE PRINTERY, 528-530 Chestnut street, Milwaukee, Wis.

FOR SALE

RECEIPT BOOKS, 50 in a book, with the union label, suitable for unions, branches, etc., 15c each, or two for 25c. SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC PUBL. CO., 528-530 Chestnut street, Milwaukee, Wis.

WARRANTS ON THE TREASURER—For the use of Social-Democratic Branches: 100 warrants in a book for 50c. SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC PUBL. CO., 528-530 Chestnut street, Milwaukee, Wis.

BRANCHES! We can now furnish you with 100 Orders on Treasurer, bound with stub, only 50c. CO-OPERATIVE PRINTERY, 528-530 Chestnut street, Milwaukee, Wis.

DAMAGES COLLECTED

For personal injury. No charges, if unsuccessful. Special and prompt attention. Licensed. Bonded Rapid Collecting Agency, Inc., Rooms 418-414 Railway Exchange Bldg. Phone Main 2154. Ap. 22-11.

COLLECTIONS

COLLECTIONS—Does anyone owe you money? We collect claims of every description on percentage. No collection, no charge. Prompt and promptness our motto. Bonded Rapid Collecting Agency, Inc., Rooms 418-414, Railway Exchange Bldg. Phone Main 2154.

S. D. P. Military Band and Orchestra

WM. KOCH, Conductor and Manager. Office: 725 Milwaukee Street. Strictly First Class, and Up-to-date Music.

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Surplus and Profits, \$150,000.00

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TURN HALL SALOON

John Kannenberg & Son

Funeral Directors & Embalmers
778-20th St.

Get back of your own paper. Support Herald advertiser.

Wisconsin State Organization

H. H. Thomas, Brisbane Hall, 528 Chestnut St., Milwaukee, Wis., state secretary, to whom news and other matters of this department should be sent.

Oscar Ameringer is engaged by the state executive board for the months of September and October. Locals and sympathizers can secure speaking dates for him through the organization department.

That Quarterly Bulletin.—Our veteran comrade, W. A. Hall of Pardeeville, is the first to respond in regard to the bulletin. Pardeeville will take 300 copies for distribution. But the Pardeeville comrades suggest that in-

stead of a quarterly bulletin, a monthly bulletin would do the work better. The comrades at headquarters know that, and we are hoping that the branches will say that very thing. For a starter, the quarterly bulletin will probably be the best, and if this is a success, and is systematically distributed by a sufficient number of branches, we can at any time turn it into a monthly bulletin. In that way, the Wisconsin branches will build up the same sort of systematic distribution which created the Milwaukee movement.

Sheboygan.—Do not forget the Sheboygan picnic next Sunday, July 30. This picnic will be held at Waldschloessen's park, and will be addressed by Ald. Melms. The profits go to the Sheboygan campaign fund and to the purchase of bonds for the Milwaukee Socialist daily.

Fond du Lac.—The comrades of Fond du Lac are about to take a very important step. At their basket picnic, which will be held Sunday, Aug. 6, they will organize a women's branch. The material for such a branch in Fond du Lac is not wanting. There are several earnest and well read Socialist women in Fond du Lac. We predict that the new branch will be very successful and do a much needed work in that city.

Lake Nebagamon.—This new local is getting right down to work. At its last meeting, in spite of a severe storm, two new members were admitted and more will be added in the near future. The comrades of this village are taking a great interest in the new movement. Comrade Martin believes that in a few months they will have a good, strong local with the majority of votes in their town. They are also securing new subscribers for the Social-Democratic Herald and thus putting the movement on the right basis—a basis of reading Socialists.

Kilbourn.—Comrade C. Sandburg delivered an address on "The Government by Trusts" in Kilbourn last Saturday. A good attendance turned out and there was a large number of ladies in the audience. On Tuesday, the 18th, he spoke in Pardeeville on the same subject.

BLATZ THE FINEST BEER EVER BREWED

Brewed and Bottled

under the most modern, sanitary conditions by skilled masters, in a brewery as clean as "mother's kitchen."



ALWAYS THE SAME GOOD OLD Blatz

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Teas, Coffees, Spices, Extracts, and Canned Goods

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BED BUG DESTROYER.

When using insect powder of J. Kaatz you protect your beds as well as your homes. Medicine against any kind of vermin to be had at J. KAATZ, 381 FIFTH ST., near Chestnut

CHILDREN'S ROMAN SANDALS FOR EARLY FALL

LUEDKE'S

Closing Out the Following

- Misses', Children's and Infants' White Canvas Oxford and Roman Sandals—49c
- Sold at 1.25 and 1.00, for.....
- Misses' and Children's Vici Kid Oxford at..... 98c
- Misses' and Children's extra good quality Barefoot Sandals, the kind you pay 1.25 and 1.10 for..... 79c
- Women's Oxfords (Pat. Colt. Vici Kid and Gun Metal, heavy and light soles..... 1.95 and 2.45
- Women's small size Oxfords and Shoes..... 29c
- And one Lot..... 1.00
- Men's Oxfords and Shoes in Pat. and Gun Metal—Lot 1, 2.00; lot 2, 1.49; lot 3, 1.95

LUEDKE

413-415 NATIONAL AVENUE OPEN EVENINGS

HURRY—

Monday we will sell all our odd and end Men's Shoes and Oxfords at \$1.00 a pair. You can save \$1.00, \$2.00 and \$3.00 on every pair you buy.

HURRY

The American Shoe Store

575-577 Mitchell Street

SAM R. MILLER'S

Open Day and Night LIVERY 535 Market St. Telephone Main 2725

Our Carriages are all New and are Heated in Cold Weather. None but Union Drivers are Employed. BEST CARRIAGES for Funerals \$3.00 or Weddings

New York to Havana, the fun begins and until the last curtain the audience is convulsed with laughter.

CRYSTAL—Vaudeville

At Crow's Nest Inn, a singing comedy sketch of rural life, is the headline attraction at the Crystal theater next week. This sketch, which is presented with special security, tells in an interesting and entertaining way the return home of a city man to a little country village and his dialogue with some of the village's old men proves most amusing. This sketch is most capably presented.

Out in the Garden

The Franz Summer Garden, Locust and Buffum streets, has an enviable reputation as a high class resort. The management is giving the best in the line of high class music, refreshments and congenial surroundings. If you desire a pleasant place to spend a few hours, do not overlook the Franz Summer Garden. Sunday afternoon and evening there will be a grand concert and high class vaudeville. Take Holton street car north to Locust street, and walk one block west. Admission free.

Town Topics by the Town Crier

Last week we showed a picture of the residence of F. Tasse, on Lloyd street. It was assessed at \$3,350—full value and a quarter! It is due to state that the assessment has now been fixed up and placed at \$2,850.

The new free swimming school at Locust street bridge, Gordon park, is open and doing a good business. It serves a large working class district in the Twenty-first ward. Dressing rooms have been provided for both men and women with a man and a woman attendant on duty.

Somebody should lasso Mr. Mortimer and compel him to ride in his own street cars during the rush hours, especially on some of the lines that run through the working class districts. Such broken down cars and such rotten service should react on the officials of the company—they should be forced to take their own medicine.

How still the newspapers have kept about the tax scandal! Newspapers that are supposed to keep people posted about what's going on and not a word about the scoundrelly uneven assessing that will gouge money out of the small home owners. About the only peep from the capitalist papers has been some alleged funny editorials about Hoan's sarcastic reference to the "best people." And these editorials were simply to throw dust in the people's eyes. The newspapers are protecting the crooked assessing!

A word ought to be said relative to the properties on Prospect avenue extended, which is not an especially swell district. The owners came to

OTTO ILLING
Representative Milwaukee Voters League
Office: 714-715 Majestic Bldg. Phone Grand 100-353
Office Hours: Evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 P. M.
If made by previous appointments. Mail inquiries will be answered promptly. Strictly confidential.

Milwaukee and state investors might do well to consider the immense benefits to be derived out of the traffic of the sure, soon-to-be-opened-up route of the People's Road—THE MILWAUKEE-WESTERN ELECTRIC RAILWAY.

Wake up! Don't let the choice plums go elsewhere. Like the Plankinton Hotel property, etc. Now is your chance to get extra inducements. It will be too late after the rail is laid.

There is no wealth but life.—Rudkin.

the tax office and objected. Just why they were over-assessed is a question, but there is a suspicion that the thing was a frame-up, that these few places on a street also bearing the name of Prospect avenue, were soaked in order to draw out objections, when—presto!—the people would get the impression that all Prospect avenue was over-assessed, the palace district as well as the rest.

Just before you start out on a shopping trip, look over The Herald advertising columns. Whatever it is you want to buy, The Herald advertisers can offer you good advantages. Just as good prices and better goods from Herald advertisers.

Gas Ranges

Lawn Mowers, Hoes, Screens, Refrigerators, Kitchen Utensils, Large Assortment of Sporting Goods, Fishing Tackle and a General Line of Hardware.

F. G. Reinhold

3814 LISBON AVE.

Brisbane Hall Annex

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ADOLPH HEUMANN
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Men's Clothing on Easy Payments

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See our line of Razors, Scissors and Nailers; every article guaranteed.

Burckhardt

451 Grove Street, near Scott

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519 Grand Ave. Phone Grand 1968
1010 Greenfield Ave. Phone South 469
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MEN'S FURNISHER
Ladies and Gents Tailoring
Garments Refitted, Repaired, Cleaned and Dyed
Reasonable Prices 8010 Union Ave.

A. M. JOHNSON'S

Ice Cream and Candles

Wholesale and Retail

509 612 MITCHELL ST.

STATE OF WISCONSIN—IN CIRCUIT Court, Milwaukee County, August Gell, Plaintiff, vs. Elizabeth Gell, Defendant.

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, to the said defendant: You are hereby summoned to appear, within twenty days after service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, and defend the above entitled action in the court aforesaid; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the complaint, of which a copy is herewith served upon you.

JOHN C. KLEIST, Plaintiff's Attorney.
P. O. Address: No. 800 Carroll Block, Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin.
The original summons and complaint in the above entitled action are on file in the office of the clerk of the above named court.
JOHN C. KLEIST, Plaintiff's Attorney.

Suggestions

For the Summer Months and Your Vacation Trip

Talcum Powders
Foot Powders
Cold Cream
Skin Lotions
Dentifrices
Bath Brushes
Bath Sponges
Soaps

Prescriptions Carefully Compounded

H. F. Steinert

Pharmacist

1112 Teutonia Ave.

Milwaukee, Wis.

Summer Clothing

(Union Made)
sold at a great reduction now, to make room for fall goods.
Don't miss your chance.

Schuck & Schiminsky

Car, Teutonia Ave. and Center St.

Pavement Expense as a Tax

To burden a street railway company with expense for pavement between its tracks is unjust.

If this cost is imposed upon a company it must be regarded as a tax, for pavement is not a part of a street railway. It is not necessary to either the construction or operation of the railway.

The pavement does not belong to the company. It is owned and controlled entirely by the city. At the end of a franchise period or in case of removal of the tracks, it must remain in the street, the property of the city.

Manifestly, it is unfair to tax a street railway for property which it does not own and from which it derives no benefit.

THE MILWAUKEE ELECTRIC RAILWAY AND LIGHT COMPANY, under its franchise, is required to pay for the maintenance of all pavement between and adjoining its tracks. The city pays the original cost of the first permanent pavement, between tracks as elsewhere.

In eleven years, from January 1, 1900, to December 31, 1910, this Company's expenditures for maintenance of pavements amounted to \$189,607.62, as shown on its books in its

operating expense accounts. In addition, the Company expended approximately \$500,000 in construction and reconstruction of paving in connection with its tracks.

In the same 11-year period the Company paid in taxes otherwise imposed against its street railway property the aggregate sum of \$1,458,258.26.

This makes a total of \$2,147,865.88 paid in taxes on account of the street railway system in the 11-year period.

In addition to the other forms of taxation in force in 1910, the Company is required now to pay the cost of sprinkling its roadway. The amount of this additional tax in 1911 will be not less than \$25,000.

Besides this, the City of Milwaukee recently enacted an ordinance requiring the Company to pay a car license tax of \$15 per car per year. The amount of this tax, on 587 cars, for the year ending April 30, 1912, will be \$8,805.

Every dollar added to the Company's taxes is an increase of 100 cents in the cost of providing service. Every increase in the cost of service must ultimately be borne by the public, either in inferior quality of service, or a higher rate of fare.

The Milwaukee Electric Railway & Light Company

SPEAKERS

John Spargo, of New York	James F. Cary, of Haverhill, Mass.
Morris Hilquit, of New York	
Lena Morrow Lewis, of Calif.	Victor L. Berger, of Milwaukee
John M. Work, of Des Moines, Ia.	Robert Hunter, of New York

COME EARLY AND AVOID THE RUSH
BRING THE LADIES Admission Free

OUTRAGEOUS!

Rascally Assessments Clearly Shown--Little Home Owners the Victims--What the Figures Show--The People Must Act!

For men who claim to have done nothing wrong the tax commissioner and his force show a surprising lot of uneasiness. The fact is, they are considerably up in the air. Their books are already full of erasures, erasures to hide the flagrant under-assessing some of them have been guilty of. They kept the Socialists at bay as long as they could, they said their books were not finished, and gave one excuse after another, to eat up the time that would be left before the books would be closed by law. But it didn't work as well as they expected and so the books have been erased and erased, and they are still at it.

Last week we printed pictures of over-assessed homes and under-assessed palaces, and gave facts about them from the books in the tax com-

missioner's office, with our comments. Evidently the tax commissioner did not relish them. So a funny thing followed. Tax Commissioner Schutz insisted that Frederic Heath be subpoenaed to appear before the board of review and show why the assessments along Prospect avenue were too low. Just as if he were an expert on real estate values!

Silly Intimidation

The move was ridiculous, but quite in line with Schutz's grandstand tactics. The board has no power to subpoena anybody, and the trap caught no one. The Herald is doing its duty in acquainting the people with the facts. Intimidation tactics will not silence us.

Patched Up!

Scarcely had The Herald reached the assessors last week than there was a scramble to straighten out the bum assessments on the properties we called attention to. By the time the paper reached our readers generally throughout the city, some of the things specifically complained of by us had been "fixed up." We give the assessors credit for it.

The city is that these are only three or four out of a city full of wrong assessments. But we shall keep on pointing out the unstraight ones.

would be glad to leave town till the feeling blew over.

Shameful Work

Examination of the figures in the tax commissioner's office, and investigations into them has brought out the following conclusions regarding the wards thus far scrutinized.

The assessing in the Twentieth ward has been quite well done, with very few exceptions. Twentieth warders will pay their full taxes, all right. But, alas, they will pay their own. AND THEN MORE, to help make up for the tax dodging in other parts of the city.

22d Warders Look Out!

In the Twenty-second ward the real estate is fairly well assessed, and especially since some corrections have been made in the first figures, due to our exposures. But Twenty-second ward improvements (buildings, etc.) ARE OVER-ASSESSED ABOUT 25 PER CENT.

Twenty-second warders better look sharp. They should go to the tax commissioner's office, fifth floor, city hall, front, and see the figures for themselves. It is a public office. The men there are public servants, and are required to freely show the figures.

In the Twenty-first ward the assessing has been very badly done. It

has assessed the house, full value, at \$35,000 and the land at \$44,120! The thing is monstrous. And we understand the assessor, whose name is Swain, when confronted with these evidences, put a cheeky face on it, and insisted that it was an honest piece of assessing.

And for a contrast, we have this—At 1267 Sixth street stands a little frame cottage on a wood foundation. Last year the little home was assessed at \$880 and this year the house and lot

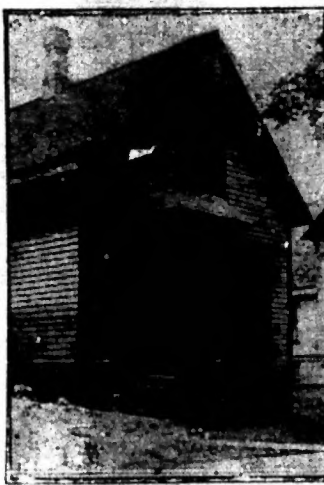
was assessed last year at \$800. This year it is assessed at \$1,900. If \$800 was 60 per cent a year ago, then on a full value basis this year, Mr. Michi is assessed \$600 too high this year. In 1909 on a 60 per cent basis his lot was assessed at \$640. This year it is assessed at \$1,500. His taxes last year were \$43.21. But the assessor told him this year that his taxes would be \$65. Perhaps the assessor had in mind the fearful tax dodging by the rich under this



Beyond the Dreams of Avarice
Banker Pett's mansion is a sample of those in the favored rich districts. No double assessments here!

have been raised to \$1,730! Soak the little fellow!

Take the mansion of Mrs. Berthe



Soak the Little Ones!
A home at 1267 Sixth street, that is over-assessed.

Frank, Prospect avenue. This year she was assessed on the property \$45,000. She refused an offer of \$30,000 for it not long ago, and asks \$60,000. Finally the tax commissioner's office was confronted with these facts and the assessment was raised to \$57,200.

Now turn back to a poor man's ward, the Twentieth. Take, for instance, the modest little house of L. Michi, at 1715 Clarke street, was as-

year's crooked assessing and wanted Mr. Michi to help make it up!

The G. D. Van Dyke residence on Prospect avenue, was assessed last year at \$7,500, and this year at \$10,000. His land last year was assessed at \$10,750, and this year at \$15,050. We shall have something to say about the Van Dyke case later on.

Heilish Contrasts

Read this—
Twenty-first ward—Lots 8 and 9, block 4, Pierce & Davis addition, increase of 250 per cent. (Workingmen's district.)

And then this—
First ward—Block 65, south 35 feet of north 130 feet, increase of less than 5 per cent. (Nabob district.)

Read this—
Twenty-second ward—Germania Park subdivision, block 6, lot 12, over 100 per cent increase. (Workingmen's district.)

And then this—
First ward—Zohrlaut tannery. No increase on building. Forty per cent increase on land. (Nabob ownership.)

Read this—
In the workingmen's wards, where the little houses are thick, the assessments are always this year too per cent higher, and in many instances the increase runs up to 150 and 200 per cent.

And then this—
In the very choice residence tract from Juneau avenue to Brady street, on Prospect avenue, the rich homes have been assessed at an increase of less than 10 per cent, and the land only 40 per cent.

The Home Owners' Duty

Unfortunately the law does not require the tax department to send a notice to each property owner of what he has been assessed at. So the little home owner remains in the dark. Then the time elapses in which under the law he is permitted to make a kick, and the time comes round and he has to take his dose and kicking will do him no good.

The time to find out what you are assessed at is NOW, and we advise you to go to the city hall and look into the matter. If you are timid about going alone take several neighbors with you. Make yourselves into a sort of neighborhood club. It is your duty to go, bear in mind. But even personal investigation as to your own assessment will not give you complete protection.

And that is why these articles are being written. We are bringing into public view the things that you, individually, would not easily find out in your visit to the tax commissioner.

When you go to the tax commissioner's office and find that your little home has been properly assessed—that is, that the assessment is the same as what you consider it worth—don't imagine from that that you are safe from being cheated on your taxes.

But kicking at tax-paying time will do you no good.

Your only chance to kick is now, and the tax department doubtless figures that you will not kick now because you have no means of knowing about the under-assessments.

A "Job" Shown!

And now come the facts about the assessment, on a full value basis, and of those upper river lands are found to have been valued by the assessors at about the same prices asked in the options the city secured! And on top of this is the fact that where property is sold on land contract the price is always higher than for spot cash. All this puts those real estate experts in a fine light! The naked fact about it is that the real estate committee was trying to job the city.

In today walks tomorrow. Schiller.

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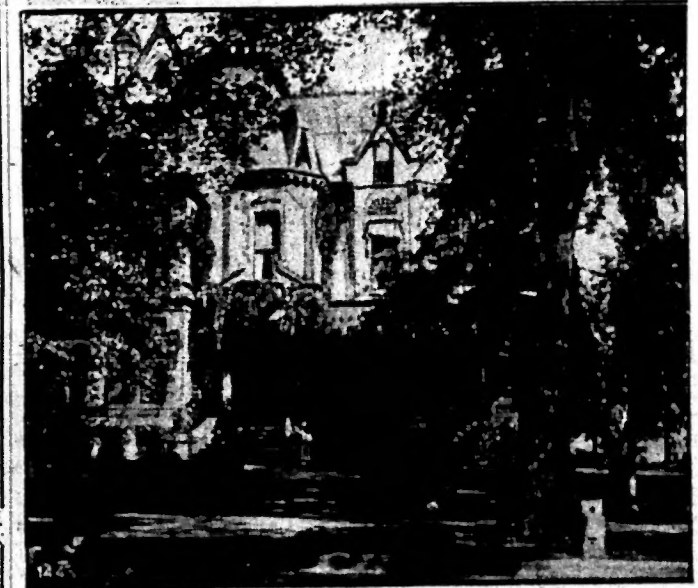
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Take Holton Street car north until Locust Street and walk one block west
N. E. Next Sunday the South Slavonian Temperance Orchestra.

CRYSTAL

Week of July 31
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Brenk's Bronz Models
JEANNETTE DUPREE
McLEAN & BRYANT
LUIGI PICARO TROUPE
2:45, 8 and 9:30 P. M.
PRICES—10—20—30

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ARTISTS & ENGRAVERS
200 N. WATER & WELLS ST.
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The Greatest Attraction ever offered for a place of its size.
TWO CONCERTS ONLY
Given by the South Slavonian Temperance Orchestra, twelve pieces. Although under heavy expenses, there will be no admission charged.
COME EARLY AND SECURE A SEAT
Take Holton Street car north until Locust Street and walk one block west



Banker Ray Licensed to Dodge
The low assessment of such palatial homes must be made up by the little fellows when tax time comes.

and every assessment we succeed in getting brought up to its proper size means just so much less taxes for the people at large to make up.

This may be a bitter pill to Neacy and Kieckhefer's "taxpayers' league." The minute that rascally aggregation of schemers, scoundrels and dull dupes saw that we were exposing the crooked assessments throughout the city, it rushed out a leaflet for house-to-house distribution, to turn the people's heads the other way and confuse them with puzzling figures, and it also included slips asking home-owners to join its organization.

Investigate the League

Now, it would not be a bad idea for the small home-owner to join—and then demand an investigation as to who is back of the whole hally affair—also to demand that the Taxpayers' league stop its dishonest and foxy knocking in the interests of the big tax dodgers and investigate and make public the crookedness of the taxation work of the tax commissioner's office. Incidentally it might be well also to demand an investigation into the conspiracy that resulted in the recent appraisal of the upper river park property by certain members of the Real Estate board committee.

But we have no time to waste here on the so-called Taxpayers' league. It is too crooked. We have no hesitation in saying that every one of the leaders of that piebald affair is a flagrant tax dodger, and the most of them are swindling the city most fearfully on their personal taxes especially.

Let the Poor Man Sweat

This week we have some more facts about the shameful assessing that has been going on in this city. There is such a mass of material that it is hard to know where to begin and where to leave off. However, we select a few typical cases as eye-openers this week, and will get at much of the rest in good time.

It is our candid opinion that if all the facts about the present assessment were clearly known to the people that the tax department would be so generally execrated by the defrauded people that its most guilty members

looks as if the assessor simply sat in his office and marked up the properties to what he thought would be full value as against the figures of last year. Our advice to Twenty-first warders is the same as that just given to the people of the Twenty-second ward.

Easy on the Palaces

Only a few years ago the towering stone mansion of Banker Charles Ray, on Prospect avenue, was regarded



One of the Victims
The home of L. Michi, Twentieth ward; a sample of over-assessment.

ed as the most imposing palace on that rich residence thoroughfare, and it was one of the sights of the town. Since then some wonderful palaces have been erected. But Ray's home, stand today with its wealth of space and material, its costly furnishings and all would put a friendly assessor up against it. Even to favor its owner, he would have to put down big figures. Yet what are the facts? Last year, at the 60 per cent basis, the house was assessed at \$30,000 and the beautiful and extensive grounds at \$30,000. This year the nervous assessor

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ARTIFICIAL BAIT—LIVE FROGS

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Queer Work, Mr. Schutz!

The law is plain about it. A tax assessor, where uncertain, is commanded by the law to require a man to sign a statement as to his personal property, (as stocks, bonds, debts due, money, etc.) especially in the case of people prone to have the same.

But Mr. Schutz has defied this law and so have his assessors.

It is impossible for an assessor, be he ever so honest and conscientious and full of gumption, to make a safe estimate of the personal belongings of a big financier.

Where is the man, for instance, who could say how much Charles Pfister is worth, or Tom Neacy, or the Falks and Kieckhefers?

So the law provides that such men shall be required by the assessor to make a statement as to their property and to sign the same.

This has its value, for should it be shown at any time that the statement is false, the men can be haled into court on a charge of perjury—and perjury is a serious thing to be charged with, even where a man is rich enough to employ the most criminal and high-priced of lawyers to help him out.

In case a property owner refused to make a signed statement the assessor is given the power under the law to bring pressure to bear by putting down what he thinks is a full value of the man's property, even though it is five times higher than it should be, thus compelling the man to appear before the board of review and to them make oath to his holdings in case he is dissatisfied.

All this is a dead letter with such chaps as the tax commissioner. When the state tax commission was called to Milwaukee a week ago by the city attorney, there were only SIXTEEN such sworn affidavits on file in the tax commissioner's office, and these were from "little" people, mostly widows and guardians, etc.

The Friend at Court!

Why hasn't Schutz required the Pfisters, Kieckhefers, Falks, Bigelows et al., to make sworn statements as to their wealth?

Have these men a "FRIEND AT COURT?"

The enormity of this dereliction on the part of the tax commissioner and his "rich ward" trustees stands out in almost criminal light when it is remembered that the state of Wisconsin requires Milwaukee to pay a state tax on twenty million dollars of such money and credits which the city itself has not taxed "because it could not be found!" Schutz pretended to make an effort, it appears, and did get five millions of it. But what about the other fifteen million? It would be easy to get on the track of this by means of the statements that he has neglected to get.

The American Bank Reporter, an authority and a standard on the subject, shows that there is on deposit in Milwaukee banks eighty-three millions of dollars. Easily one hundred millions escape taxation in this city. The city might be a good fellow and "help business" and not "scare the rich" by winking at this fearful tax dodging were it not for the fact that such dodging means that little home owners must be over-taxed to make it up! This is the hellishness of the situation.

Schmidt, or John O'Smith, don't want to pay other people's taxes. But you DO, and you WILL as long as the tax department is in the hands of friends of the rich tax dodgers.

You have doubtless winked at the under assessing of business corporations, feeling that we were getting a lot out of them anyway. But once you get it into that hard head of yours that they are dodging taxes at YOUR expense, you will not feel so philanthropic—and you should not.

It is a downright shame, Mr. Smith. It is a damnable shame, because Milwaukee ought to foster home owning. Home owning makes good citizenship. But overtaxing the little homes discourages people from trying to get little homes of their own.

There is no reason why a man who pays taxes on his wealth when it is in real estate should be permitted to escape paying full taxes on that wealth if he sells his real estate and puts his money into bonds, mortgages, or other valuable securities.

We have spoken above of the millions on deposit by Milwaukee people in Milwaukee banks. And right here comes a suggestive little piece of information: Within the last few weeks two Milwaukee banks (the First National and the Wisconsin National, we understand) have transferred two millions of the moneys on deposit to Chicago banks, to be kept doubtless until the storm blows over. Very honorable business!

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